

**NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP
LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.**

**124 Deborah Drive
Reading, PA 19610
Telephone: (610) 670-7310
Telecopy: (610) 670-7311**

June 5, 2003

First Class Mail

Mr. Brad Bradley
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
Consent Decree
Progress Report 49 (May 2003)**

Dear Mr. Bradley:

As required by the Consent Decree for the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the "site"), two copies of this letter are submitted on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") to provide the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") with a progress report for activities related to the remediation of the residential lots and remote fill areas, the remediation of the Taracorp pile, the remedial action for groundwater, and operation and maintenance activities that were performed during May 2003.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Month to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- On May 2, 2003, the Group's project coordinator issued a progress report to EPA.
- On May 9, 2003, the Group's project coordinator provided copies of the "Master List for Remote Fill Properties" and the "Master List for Stack Emission Properties" to the Madison County Community Development Agency for its use in conjunction with the Supplemental Environmental Project.
- During the week of May 5, 2003, the Group's contractor, ENTACT & Associates, LLC ("ENTACT") mobilized to the site and initiated efforts to obtain access agreements and to collect soil samples in accordance with the Five-Year Review Project Work Plan.

progressreport-granitecity

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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Note: need
follow up
on items
in §4

- On May 30, 2003, ENTACT completed soil sampling activities in accordance with the Five-Year Review Project Work Plan. ENTACT submitted the soil samples to Environmetrics, Inc. for laboratory testing.
- During May 2003, STL Savannah continued to analyze groundwater samples collected at the site by ARCADIS personnel during the week of March 24, 2003. Upon receipt of laboratory data, ARCADIS initiated efforts to validate the data and to prepare a report to summarize the data.

2. **Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

3. **Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Month:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

4. **Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:**

- As previously noted, the Group's project coordinator issued a copy of ENTACT's March 28, 2003 operation and maintenance inspection report to EPA on April 23, 2003. The Group will advise EPA regarding its plans for performing maintenance activities at the site to address the items in ENTACT's report.
- The Group anticipates that ARCADIS will continue to prepare a report to summarize the data collected during groundwater monitoring activities at the site in March 2003. The report will be submitted to EPA upon completion.
- The Group also anticipates that laboratory testing of soil samples collected by ENTACT will be completed. Upon receipt of laboratory data, ENTACT will initiate efforts to prepare a report to summarize the results.
- In April 2003, Group representatives issued letters to EPA to: (1) request EPA's written certification pursuant to Section 48(b) of the Consent Decree to confirm that the Group has completed remedial action at the site; (2) request clarifications regarding the Supplemental Environmental Project; (3) request EPA's approval for the Madison County Community Development Agency to submit the draft work plan for the Supplemental Environmental Project to EPA by July 19, 2003; (4) request EPA's approval to reduce the amount of financial security for the site; (5) request EPA's written confirmation that

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Johnson Controls' 2002 Annual Report is sufficient to demonstrate the Group's financial ability to complete the remaining work at the site; and to (6) request EPA's written confirmation that it is not necessary for the Group to maintain comprehensive general liability insurance and automobile liability insurance pursuant to the Consent Decree because remedial activities have been completed at the site. The Group will address EPA's responses, as required, upon receipt.

5. **Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

6. **Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

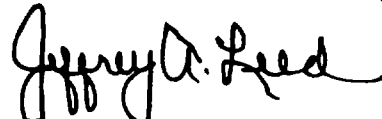
7. **Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (by first class mail)
Mr. Jack Kratzmeyer - ARCADIS (by first class mail)
Mr. Rich Wood - ENTACT, Inc. (by first class mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group
(by first class mail)